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## SYLLABUS

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**OT 502 Hebrew I**  
THURSDAY 5:00-9:00  
AUGUST 23<sup>RD</sup>-NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>  
(NOT MEETING SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> OR NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, TAKE-HOME EXAMS)  
REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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ATLANTA CAMPUS    FALL 2018

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### CONTACT INFORMATION AND CALENDAR

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[Course Calendar](#)

### PURPOSE

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To glorify God and enjoy him forever by exploring the majestic language and theology of the Hebrew Bible. This exploration will be a means of grace to delight in God and his revelation.

### GOAL

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To help you gain:

- A reading knowledge of the Hebrew Bible (vocabulary and language structures)
- A desire to read it every day for the rest of your life.

### Student Learning Objectives

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The student will:

1. Read and translate from portions of the Hebrew Old Testament. We will start with Genesis 1:1-2:3.

2. Know the top [250 words of the Hebrew Bible](#). We will cover 25 per week for 10 weeks. The midterm will cover 1-125 and the final 126-250. Both the midterm and final are comprehensive.
3. Read orally any section from Genesis 1-2 in the Hebrew Bible with basic proficiency. Here is a [YouTube of Genesis 1:1-2:4 being read in Hebrew](#).
4. Fill in the following charts:  
 Alphabet  
 Vowels
5. Reproduce the following conjugations:  
 Masculine Nouns (Absolute, Construct in Singular, Plural and Dual)  
 Feminine Nouns (Absolute, Construct in Singular, Plural and Dual)  
 Pronominal and Verbal Suffixes
6. Reproduce the following paradigms:
 

Qal	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)
Niphal	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)
Piel	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)
Pual	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)
Hiphil	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)
Hophal	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)
Hithpael	Perfect and Imperfect	(Strong Verb)

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## Methods of Instruction

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The Methods of Instruction will include the following besides the assigned readings and lecture:

1. Short Video Instruction prior to class: The instructor will post these on YouTube before each class. The student will be expected to come to class with this basic knowledge.
2. In-class Review and Quiz: We will review the quiz material for a few minutes and then take the quiz and afterward grade it in class.
3. Material from Fullilove's Introduction. We will briefly go over the material in Fullilove's Introduction.
4. Hebrew Reading. We will read and translate together a section from the Hebrew Bible each week.

## Textbooks and Materials

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### **Required**

William Fullilove, [Introduction to Hebrew. A Guide for Learning and Using Biblical Hebrew](#), (Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 2017). ISBN 978-1629952710.

Karl Elliger and Wilhelm Rudolph, [Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia](#). (Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1994). ISBN 978-1598561630.

This is commonly abbreviated BHS. There is a [BHS Reader's Version](#) (it has vocabulary helps), but it lacks the critical apparatus and it introduces a slightly difficult parsing code. Eventually you will want to get both a reader's version and the critical edition. Zondervan has a very popular reader's version which is easier to use than the BHS reader's version, [A Hebrew Reader's Bible](#). Do not get an interlinear. I have never met anyone who can volume read who uses an interlinear.

### **Recommended**

John Joseph Owens, [Analytical Key to the Old Testament](#), Volumes 1-4 (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989-1994). ISBN 978-0801067143.

This is a fantastic tool. It is the closest thing we have to a Zerwick's, [Grammatical Analysis](#), for the Old Testament.

***There is a very good program for the study of Hebrew.***

**Logos 7.0.** You can buy BHS, AKOT, and several Biblical Hebrew Introductions here, as well as BHQ, the critical new edition of BHS. All of these will work on Windows, MAC, IPAD, and Android. They will speed your learning of the language. I recommend these instead of the print editions, but I have and used both the print and electronic versions often. I have used Logos since 2009 everyday. [The Biblical Languages module is probably the best](#). It is a little expensive (\$749), but you should get an RTS discount of 30%-40%.

## Course Requirements

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<b>Daily Quizzes and Homework</b>	(Quizzes, Attendance, Preparation)	35%
<b>Midterm</b>	Midterm Exam	15%
<b>Final</b>	Final Comprehensive Exam	50%

### TESTS, ASSIGNMENTS, PAPER

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#### **Midterm**

The Midterm will be a proctored exam on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. It will cover the material in Quizzes 1-5.

## Final

The Final Exam will be a proctored exam on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. It will cover the material in Quizzes 1-10.

## GRADING SYSTEM

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### Grading Scale

97-100	A
94-96	A-
91-93	B+
88-90	B
86-87	B-
83-85	C+
80-82	C
78-79	C-
75-77	D+
72-74	D
70-71	D-
Below 70	F

## SUGGESTIONS FOR DOING WELL IN THIS CLASS

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1. Ask the Lord to help you in your study of Hebrew. He knows more about the Hebrew Bible than anyone, and he blesses those who seek wisdom and power from him.
2. Study Hebrew every single day. The long-term goal is being able to volume read the Hebrew Bible. The best way to achieve this goal is daily reading. If you ever develop this discipline, it will massively pay you back every single day of your life.
3. Work hard for a set period of time and then rest. I would suggest starting at 30 minutes, and then resting for 5. You will get to the place where you can concentrate for longer before rests, but this is a good place to start.
4. Study with other people if you can. You will understand something they do not and vice versa. If you cannot do the homework together, at least meet shortly before class to check your work.
5. Ask questions in class. There is no such thing as a bad question. I'm sure other students will probably have the same question as you.
6. Please contact me if you need further help.

## **Extension Policy**

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Registrar's Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)

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## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

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Each student is expected to be in class unless providentially hindered.

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: OT 502 Hebrew I (Introduction to Biblical Hebrew)  
 Professor: Jud Davis  
 Campus: Atlanta  
 Date: Fall 2017

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strong</li> <li>➤ Moderate</li> <li>➤ Minimal</li> <li>➤ None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Moderate	Understanding the Scriptures in the original languages has always been a cornerstone in the development of ministers who will love God, obey his word and effectively teach God’s people. Ancient languages helps a minister in oral and written communication. Also, students are trained to read the Hebrew text out loud.
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	Understanding the Scriptures in the original languages is often the best way to understand God’s original, intended meaning for any text of Scripture. That original understanding is the best building block for teaching God’s people God’s truth.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	A thorough understanding of the original languages of Scripture will drive the student to a Reformed understanding of the Bible. God’s elegance in revelation is in it’s simplest and most powerful form in the original languages. It is the pastor’s privilege to mine this resource to empower the people unfamiliar with the original languages to see this glory.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.	Moderate	The difficult task of learning an ancient language will drive a student to the powerful God for help. That is the same principle in sanctification, recognizing inherent lack, and going to God for help.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	The Scriptures offer the promise of a life transformed by God. Study, praying, and loving the text are gifts and at the same time means of grace heighten that desire for conformity to the word of God.

<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Moderate	Many of the reformed greats have developed a winsomely reformed ethos out of interaction with the original languages.
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Study of the original languages is the best way to powerfully preach God's intended meaning to God's people.
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Moderate	Study of the original languages will help with the ancient side of this goal.
<b>Shepherd</b>	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Moderate	The best way to feed a flock is to teach powerfully and accurately God's word.
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Moderate	Study of the original texts will lead a person to historic Presbyterian polity with God's word as the unalterable foundation.